



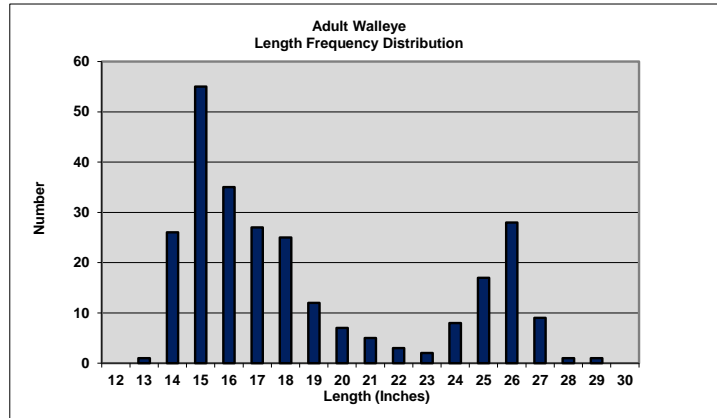
WISCONSIN DNR **FISHERIES INFORMATION SHEET** **BALSAM LAKE, POLK COUNTY 2017**

The WDNR conducted a fisheries assessment of Balsam Lake, Polk County from April 1 to April 8, 2017.

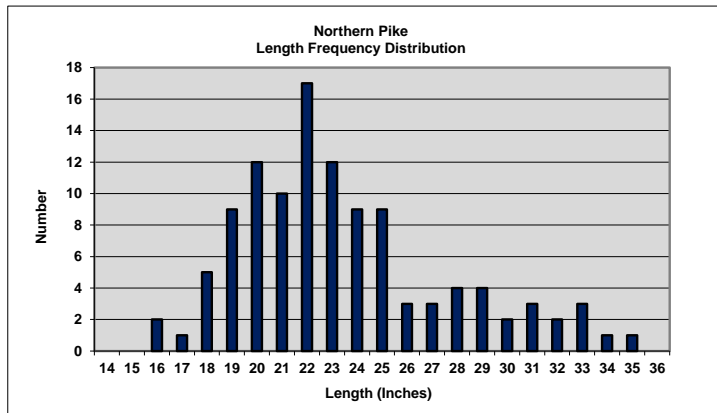
Balsam Lake is a 2054 acre drainage lake in the St. Croix River basin and has a maximum depth of 37 feet. The fishery includes panfish, largemouth bass, northern pike, and walleye. Balsam Lake was estimated to contain 1,032 adult walleye or 0.5 per acre. The walleye fishery is supported primarily through stocking.



Walleye	
Total Captured	262
Avg. Length (in.)	18.7
Length Range (in.)	13-29
% >18"	45%



Northern Pike	
Total Captured	112
Avg. Length (in.)	23.4
Length Range (in.)	16-35
% >26"	23%



We are also conducting a creel (angler harvest) survey on Balsam Lake this year. Creel clerk Harry Johns will count and interview anglers and examine their catch throughout the fishing season.

Stocking History (Past 10 Years)

Year	Species	Number Fish Stocked	Avg Fish Length (IN)	Source
2016	WALLEYE	18,998	7.2	DNR HATCHERY
2014	WALLEYE	1,912	6.3	DNR HATCHERY
2012	WALLEYE	71,890	1.7	DNR HATCHERY
2012	WALLEYE	21,590	2.0	PRIVATE HATCHERY
2010	WALLEYE	41,264	3.0	TRIBAL HATCHERY
2008	WALLEYE	71,872	1.4	DNR HATCHERY
2008	WALLEYE	36,503	2.2	TRIBAL HATCHERY
2006	WALLEYE	20,538	7.2	DNR HATCHERY

A brief summary of selected fishing regulations is included below. While the regulatory information provided was current at the time the surveys were conducted, it is not comprehensive and should not be used as a substitute for the current fishing regulation pamphlet. You may obtain a copy of current fishing regulations when you purchase your fishing license, or download a copy from our web site at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/fishing/regulations/>

General Fishing Regulations for Balsam Lake, Polk County 2017

FISH SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	DAILY LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH
Walleye	May 06-March 04	3	18" MINIMUM
Largemouth Bass	May 06-March 04	*5	NO MINIMUM
Smallmouth Bass	May 06-March 04	*5	NO MINIMUM
Muskellunge	May 27-Nov 30	1	40" MINIMUM
Northern Pike	May 06-March 04	2	26" MINIMUM
Panfish	All year	25	NO MINIMUM

*During harvest season for each species; you may keep any combination of five largemouth or smallmouth bass in total.

This report is interim only; data and findings should not be considered final. Results of creel surveys should be available by June of the year following the survey. If you are interested in a summary of the creel survey or want an update on this year's fyke netting and electrofishing survey results contact:

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To access other northern Wisconsin fisheries surveys go to: <http://dnr.wi.gov/> and search Ceded Territory Fisheries Reports.

For answers to questions about fisheries management activities and plans for Balsam Lake, Polk County contact:

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